

National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska

Public Hearings

Nuiqsut

1998

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

NATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVE - ALASKA

NUIQSUT HEARING

Nuiqsut Community Center

January 14, 1998 - 7:30 p.m.

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1		
2	Mr. Johnny Ahtuagaruak	08
3	Mr. Thomas Napageak	09
4	Mr. Joe Nukapigak	14
5	Ms. Ruth Nukapigak	18
6	Ms. Bernice Kaigelak	25
7	Mayor Leonard Lampe	27
8	Ms. Shara Kunaknana	30
9	Mr. Arch Ahkiviana	32
10	Mr. Nelson Ahvakana	33
11	Ms. Karen Burnell (Mayor Nageak's comments)	38
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record - 7:30 p.m.)

MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq) Honorable Mayor.....

MR. A. BROWER, JR: Leonard.

MR. AHVAKANA:Leonard Lampe (Inupiaq)

MAYOR LAMPE: (Inupiaq) I want to thank our guests also for being here tonight. I think Dee is going to introduce his staff and then I'll ask Arnold to introduce the North Slope Borough staff as well as anybody else that's here, if you could introduce yourself, guests, to our residents. Tonight, we're discussing NPR-A, the Draft EIS impact statement so I think you're going to give a presentation first and then we'll probably be open for discussion and comments and questions and answers. Once again, thank you for coming in and I know there is a lot of concerns and pertaining NPR-A because Nuiqsut is pretty much in the heart of the NPR-A and impact the village once again.

Thank you and welcome to Nuiqsut. We'll have Shara -- before we do our introductions, have Shara open the meeting with a prayer. (Inupiaq) Everybody please stand.

MS. KUNAKNANA: (Inupiaq).

MR. RITCHIE: Thank you, Mayor, for having us in this community this evening and for having this meeting and we thank you all for coming. We're looking forward to the opportunity to hear from you and about the job we've done so far in this

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 plan and Environmental Impact Statement. I'd like to introduce
2 the folks that are here from our staff tonight and first of
3 all, I'd like to introduce Sally Wisely who's the associate
4 State director for BLM Alaska. We're glad to have her here
5 tonight. I believe this is the first time in this community.

6 MS. WISELY: It is.

7 MR. RITCHIE: And so glad to have her with us. We have
8 with us also tonight Mike Kunz who is a regular visitor to the
9 North Slope and is our District Coordinator for this project.
10 Anne Morkill is from our staff and has been involved in the
11 public meetings, all of them, and we appreciate her. Sharon
12 Wilson is our Public Affairs person and she's been to several
13 of these meetings here but second time to Nuiqsut.

14 MS. WILSON: Yep.

15 MR. RITCHIE: Dick Roberts from MMS, coordinator with
16 BLM on developing this project and Environmental Impact
17 Statement. We are happy to have our court reporter tonight,
18 Joe Kola.....

19 MS. WISELY: Kolasinski.

20 MR. A. BROWER, JR: Kolasinski.

21 MR. RITCHIE: Kolasinski.

22 MR. RITCHIE: And those Irish names always get me. And
23 Arnold Brower, Jr. you all know, perhaps. We've known Arnold
24 for about as long as you have but he's also the coordinator
25 assigned on this project from the North Slope Borough and he's

1 also worked very closely with the BLM and the preparation and
2 coordinating this project. Arnold, do you want to introduce
3 your folks from the North Slope and then let me introduce Dave
4 Yokel. It'll take just a few minutes.

5 MR. BROWER: Okay. (Inupiaq). Jana Harcharek, IHLC,
6 (Inupiaq) Dan Remington, GIS (Inupiaq). Becky Gay (Inupiaq)
7 Anchorage office NPR-A -- for the Mayor's office. Harry
8 Brower, Jr. (Inupiaq). Karen Burnell, our Planning Director, I
9 think the mayor?

10 MS. BURNELL: Not today.

11 MR. BROWER: I'm used to seeing her, that's why.
12 Excuse me. (Inupiaq). John Dunham, where are you? John?
13 Laying a low key back there. John Dunham moved to Admin and
14 Finance (Inupiaq) he's currently involved (Inupiaq) NPR-A.

15 MS. BURNELL: (Inupiaq)

16 MR. A. BROWER, JR: (Inupiaq)

17 MR. RITCHIE: Dave Yokel is also from our staff and
18 tonight we've asked him to introduce the subject that we're
19 here for tonight and a little bit about the plan and the
20 Environmental Impact Statement and the alternative and some of
21 the language in this book that we're going to be talking about
22 tonight, so Dave Yokel.

23 MAYOR LAMPE: I'm sorry, Dee?

24 MR. RITCHIE: Yes.

25 MAYOR LAMPE: I was wondering if the other guests could

1 introduce themselves because the community is probably
2 wondering who they are.

3 MR. RITCHIE: Okay. We could -- yes

4 MAYOR LAMPE: Just introduce themselves.

5 MR. RITCHIE: Yes. You bet, Mayor.

6 MR. MAJORS: Hi, I'm Mark Majors, with ARCO Alaska. I'm
7 with the Exploration Permitting Group.

8 MS. McCOY: I'm Joan McCoy with ARCO Alaska and I'm a
9 Community Relations Manager.

10 MR. A. BROWER, JR: I'm sorry, we didn't get your name.

11 MS. McCOY: Joan McCoy.

12 MS. CORRIGAN: My name is Kate Corrigan. I'm with
13 Anadarko and I'm the Manager of Community Relations.

14 MR. MacLEAN: Steve MacLean with LGL Alaska Research
15 Associates in Anchorage.

16 MS. ANJUM: And I'm Shehla Anjum with LGL. I'm doing
17 some work with (indiscernible - away from microphone).

18 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: (Inupiaq).

19 MAYOR NAGEAK: I'm sorry.

20 MAYOR LAMPE: All right. Thank you, Dee.

21 MR. RITCHIE: Okay. Thank you, Leonard. Just move so
22 you can see that.

23 MR. YOKEL: Good evening. The Bureau of Land
24 Management is in the process now of developing a plan to manage
25 4.6 million acres in northeastern corner of NPR-A. This map

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 here shows all of the National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska or
2 NPR-A and this area here that's outlined in red is the area
3 that's involved in this plan. The village of Nuiqsut is right
4 here on the eastern corner of this area. The plan that we are
5 developing includes the possibility of oil and gas leasing and
6 the subsequent development that that could bring. The plan is
7 now in draft form and there are copies of that draft around the
8 village.

9 Any such plan has to include a reasonable range of
10 alternatives and our plan includes five alternatives that are
11 depicted in the next five maps that you see up before you here
12 in yellow and green. And these five alternatives cover the
13 range from no leasing for oil and gas anywhere in this planning
14 area, as depicted by the green color here, all the way to
15 leasing the entire 4.6 million acres, as depicted by the yellow
16 color on this map. And the three intermediate alternatives
17 involve oil and gas leasing in varying portions of the planning
18 area. So, for instance, under this alternative, there would be
19 no leasing here where it shows green and the area that is
20 yellow would be open leasing.

21 All of the alternatives that would provide for oil and
22 gas leasing also include language that would regulate oil
23 exploration and development to minimize the impacts to the
24 other resources and activities on the land. And these five
25 alternatives that are depicted here also include other land

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 designations for further protection of some of those resources.
2 Now the final decision, the result of this planning process
3 could be one of these five alternatives or it could be some
4 combination of the features of them.

5 We are here tonight to listen to your comments on this
6 draft management plan and there are two areas of comments that
7 we're especially interested in. The first area is your comments
8 on these five alternatives. Secondly, we're interested in your
9 comments on how we did when we assessed the impacts of these
10 alternatives.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. RITCHIE: I heard Arnold introduce Nelson in
13 Inupiaq, but I just picked up a little bit of that, so let me
14 do that in English. Nelson Ahvakana is from ASNA, our Hearing
15 Officer for tonight. We're happy to have him here with us.
16 He's been with us in all our meetings and we appreciate the job
17 he's doing and so it's my pleasure to turn this meeting to him
18 tonight.

19 Thank you, Nels.

20 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you, Dee. (Inupiaq).

21 MR. AHTUAGARUAK: (Inupiaq).

22 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq) Yeah, Johnny Ahtuagaruak.

23 Before you start, Thomas, I would like to reiterate what Johnny
24 has said here in Inupiaq. Johnny Ahtuagaruak, we'll spell the
25 last name, A-h-t-u-a-g-a-r-u-a-k. Johnny indicated that at the

1 start of this village, there were three people that
2 incorporated to start working on the start of the Village of
3 Nuiqsut. It was Samuel Kuanknana, K-u-a-n-k-n-a-n-a, Johnny
4 Ahtuagaruak, A-h-t-u-a-g-a-r-u-a-k, Edward Nukpigak,
5 N-u-k-p-i-g-a-k. Those three people have worked continuously
6 in trying to allow the village of Nuiqsut to be incorporated
7 and the two have passed away, and that's Samuel and Edward, but
8 their widowers are here present this evening. Johnny would
9 like to see if there would be some way of saying thank you to
10 those people that he had mentioned.

11 MR. A. BROWER, JR: Some form of appreciation.

12 MR. AHVAKANA: Huh?

13 MR. A. BROWER, JR: Some form of appreciation.

14 MR. AHVAKANA: Some form of appreciation to be given to
15 those people and the widowers of Samuel and Edward. With that,
16 I would like to introduce Mr. Thomas Napageak, President of
17 Native Village of Nuiqsut.

18 MR. NAPAGEAK: (Inupiaq). Pintail duck, whoever ate
19 those. Have you? I know you resided here.

20 MR. AHVAKANA: Don't point to me, I'm just here.

21 MR. NAPAGEAK: (Inupiaq) Nuiqsut household expenditures
22 on subsistence activities. These result include only those
23 households that participated in census survey. Probably no one
24 spends more than \$10,000 (Inupiaq) \$10,000 (Inupiaq), even to
25 12,000. (Inupiaq)

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq)
2 MR. NAPAGEAK: (Inupiaq) These are written statements
3 in this draft.
4 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq)
5 MR. NAPAGEAK: (Inupiaq)
6 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq)
7 MR. NAPAGEAK: (Inupiaq)
8 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq)
9 MR. NAPAGEAK: The principle one, of course -- I've got
10 the floor. Will you shut up? The principle one, of course,
11 west of Colville that I used to pursue subsistence resources
12 are Uglooktok (ph) River, Judy Creek and Fish Creek. Judy
13 Creek (Inupiaq)
14 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq)
15 MR. NAPAGEAK: (Inupiaq)
16 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you.
17 MR. AHVAKANA: Mr. Napageak said some areas also, did
18 indicate it in English, the areas that hurt this village.
19 Everything -- When BLM first came here to meet with the
20 villagers, they make their statements at that meeting and that
21 only one statement had ever been included in this Draft EIS.
22 The statements that are listed is what he had stated. As far
23 as subsistence is concerned, whaling was included and what was
24 being said was not enough and yet, it's true, Beluga hunting
25 had never, never been done here in this village. These people

1 had never even seen a Beluga here in the mouth of the Harrison
2 Bay and yet, it's stated in EIS that the village of Nuiqsut
3 hunt Beluga. That is wrong, completely wrong.

4 And in the EIS also, Henry Nashana (ph) was mentioned
5 indicating that (Inupiaq).....

6 MR. NAPAGEAK: Seventy-five to 100 miles east of here,
7 McClure Island.

8 MR. AHVAKANA: Seventy-five to 100 miles east of
9 Nuiqsut is where they hunt seals and oogalooks and these people
10 had never been able to do that because at the time when the
11 seals and oogalooks are harvested, this whole area is still
12 full of ice in June so how could they be able to hunt seals in
13 accordance with what Mr. Nashana (ph) had stated? That's
14 completely wrong also. The seals that are harvested and the
15 oogalooks are here and right in front of Harrison Bay, what
16 little that they could get they harvest from there.

17 MR. A. BROWER, JR: In the Colville River delta.

18 MR. AHVAKANA: Huh?

19 MR. A. BROWER, JR: In the Colville River delta.

20 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq)

21 MR. NAPAGEAK: (Inupiaq)

22 MR. A. BROWER, JR: (Inupiaq)

23 MR. AHVAKANA: 26(A) Unit is where the Alaska Fish and
24 Game had marked as the unit for our area here. I'm including
25 myself even though my cousin over here looked at me as if I'm

1 something else, but I'm including myself in this when I'm
2 translating this to English.

3 Kowalski, Nageak, Obie (ph) all stated in the EIS that
4 the Village of Nuiqsut hunt for fish and game at the Colville
5 River. That is completely wrong because when the fish are
6 there, all the way from where the boats are docking, that's
7 down here. All the way down to the mouth of Nagaluk (ph) they
8 put their nets. It's true that during the summer, that
9 (Inupiaq), they put nets there, yes, but for whitefish, this is
10 -- this Nagaluk (ph) River is what they use the most. And then
11 if they cannot do it there when the bay opens up, they go
12 through the fish screen and use that area also for fishing.
13 The Ulutuooh River which is really close from here and it bends
14 like crazy like a snake, there's no fishing there. They don't
15 fish there. It's the Fish Creek area is what they use so
16 everything that has been stated in that EIS is completely
17 wrong.

18 These people, through their leadership of Mr. Napageak
19 who's the President of Native Village of Nuiqsut, the trustees
20 (Inupiaq) from the trap that BLM has made, everything that was
21 set by these people has never been put in EIS and yet, they
22 acknowledged people that have never hunted in this area stating
23 that these are the areas that they used for fishing, for
24 hunting, et cetera.

25 When the moose season opens in 26(A), the village here

1 goes for moose hunting, but in accordance with that EIS, it
2 stated that the people hunt moose from July to October. The
3 regulations states in 26(A), under Alaska Fish and Game, that
4 the village residents would hunt moose in the month of August
5 by boat only and then in September. But when September comes
6 around, the people here usually don't hunt by boat because the
7 winds are so severe that the river is not available to go
8 hunting up in that area. They don't hunt if the river is
9 shallow. They don't hunt by packing what they have all the way
10 up to the mouth or the creeks up there. They don't do that.

11 And the cost of the equipment that was stated in that
12 EIS indicated that one household cost for the equipment to be
13 used for subsistence averaged to \$10,000 per family. That is
14 completely wrong because you cannot get anything for that
15 amount no more. To get an outboard motor, you have to spend at
16 least 12 to \$15,000 just for that motor. For a snowmachine,
17 you have to spend more than 10,000 to do that. Everything that
18 has been stated in accordance with Mr. Napageak had stated is
19 completely wrong.

20 And the alternatives that are set forth here in front,
21 Mr. Napageak indicated that these alternatives cannot be
22 addressed at this time because what that Environmental Impact
23 Statement, that draft statement that was presented and sent out
24 to all this area is completely wrong. Before any consideration
25 has to be made, that draft will have to be revised so that

1 those comments that were made when questions and answers were
2 given, when scoping was given have to be incorporated into that
3 EIS in order for this village to even consider these five
4 alternatives. That's the statement of Mr. Napageak.

5 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: (Indiscernible -away from
6 microphone) Nelson.

7 MR. AHVAKANA: I would like to continue the hearing.
8 (Inupiaq) For the people that don't know this person, this is
9 Mr. Joe Nukapigak.

10 MR. NUKAPIGAK: Nukapigak.

11 MR. AHVAKANA: Nukapigak. The President of Kuukpik
12 Corporation. I'm sorry, Joe, for saying that.

13 MR. NUKAPIGAK: Before I go any further, I'd like to
14 welcome the panel. To add to these issues that comes before us
15 in regard to the NPR-A. For the record, my name is Joe
16 Nukapigak, President of Kuukpik Corporation, a village
17 corporation formed in pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims
18 Settlement Act, 1971. Kuukpik Corporation is also a major land
19 owner adjacent to the National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska.
20 BLM has identified 4.6 million acres of land in the northeast
21 corner of NPR-A as potential for discovery of oil and gas.
22 Also, that majority of my villages use the same area to
23 subsistence hunt and fish, that the village of Nuiqsut heavily
24 depend on to have food on the table.

25 As BLM is aware, that Kuukpik Corporation still has

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 some land entitlement to select land within the proposed 4.6
2 million acres of possible leases of oil and gas to the oil
3 industry. Kuukpik Corporation will opposed the oil and gas
4 leasing in the planning area until Kuukpik Corporation receive
5 its full land entitlement as required by ANCSA 1971. Also,
6 that Kuukpik Corporation is in full support of Arctic Slope
7 Regional Corporation proposed land exchange with the Department
8 of Interior. This injustice to our regional corporation should
9 be correct before there are any oil and gas leasing in the
10 NPR-A. For too long we, the Inupiat of the North Slope has
11 been denied to own land in the name of national interests,
12 State of Alaska's interest to the land.

13 In the last 25 years or so, the North Slope of Alaska
14 has provided the nation with oil to help appease the nation of
15 its required field supply. And none of that oil that is sent
16 to the Lower 48 is owned by our regional corporation because we
17 were denied to own the land when it should have been owned by
18 our own regional corporation. I think that it's high time that
19 federal government should do something about the injustice that
20 is done to us. Let us own some of the land we have decided to
21 own for our own use and potential economic benefit that comes
22 with it.

23 Kuukpik Corporation will oppose any land designation as
24 wildlife refuge per conservation area, et cetera, so as long as
25 we are denied to own some of the land that we decided to own.

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 Stop denying our rights to own some of the land we dearly
2 cherish. Since time immemorial, we the people of the North
3 Slope has been the steward of the land because we understand
4 our surrounding environment than any scientist that's supposed
5 to know what they learn from the textbook. If the NPR-A is to
6 be leased to the oil industry, the people of the North Slope
7 should be involved in the planning process. It is very
8 imperative that people of the North Slope be involved for a
9 change for the betterment of the North Slope people that
10 depends on the land for food. Let us work together to resolve
11 some of these issues that are still out there so that our
12 objectives are more easier to reach.

13 Ever since oil was discovered at Prudhoe Bay some 25
14 years ago, the surrounding environment of our land has been
15 changed forever and to this day, our landscape is still
16 changing and the people who are affected from the development
17 still have to contend with the changes of our environment. Now
18 with the discovery of Alpine by ARCO-Alaska in the vicinity of
19 Village of Nuiqsut, it is remain to be seen how much it will
20 impact our lives and our land environment for foreseeable
21 future is still uncertain at this time. Only time will tell,
22 as the infrastructures are in place, and as oil industry
23 continuing to move westward to explore and develop some of the
24 land that we don't own.

25 The people of the North Slope should be guaranteed to

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 have access to the hunting and fishing area that Inupiat have
2 used for centuries. Sometimes when there's oil development,
3 the access to those lands are no longer accessible to our
4 people because of a variety of reasons that oil companies may
5 have imposed on us. Access to those lands should not be
6 compromised by federal government to appease the oil industry.
7 It should be part of the stipulation that we, the Inupiat
8 people of the North Slope, are always guaranteed to those lands
9 to hunt and fish.

10 Kuukpik Corporation is in support of the proposed
11 regional subsistence advisory panel. If there is to be any oil
12 development in the northeast corner of NPR-A, perhaps by
13 forming the subsistence advisory panel, the formations of
14 regulations, stipulations, monitoring of wildlife, will help us
15 to resolve some of the potential conflict quicker through the
16 subsistence advisory panel.

17 The majority of the villages are within the within the
18 National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska. Villages of Nuiqsut,
19 Atqasuk, Barrow, Wainwright will be impacted. Especially the
20 Village of Nuiqsut, being closest to the proposed oil and gas
21 leasing. Kuukpik Corporation is in support of the impact funds
22 to the affected villages be available regardless.

23 In closing, I want to thank the Hearing Officer for
24 allowing me to address these issues in public forum so that
25 your department who oversees the land that is vital to our

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 Inupiat people are heard and your decision is sound,
2 compassionate to our needs.
3 Thank you.
4 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you, Joe. (Inupiaq)
5 MR. A. BROWER, JR: You want me to do the next one?
6 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq)
7 MS. NUKAPIGAK: My name is Ruth Nukapigak. (Inupiaq)
8 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you, Ruth. At this time, before
9 Mr. Brower interprets what Ruth has said in English, I would
10 like to take this opportunity to have at least a 15-minute
11 break.
12 (Off record)
13 (On record)
14 MR. AHVAKANA: For your information, Mr. Brower is
15 going to translate what Ruth had said to us in English at this
16 time.
17 MR. A. BROWER, JR: Her name is Ruth Nukapigak. She's
18 a council member at Nuiqsut and one of the elders and she's
19 been listening to the introductions and our distinguished
20 titles that you guys have and that we have as sitting panel.
21 She's not the caliber of a person in education like us but she
22 wished to convey to the panel that she has little English
23 concept but she knows from her heart and speak what's right and
24 what's wrong. Because she's has been on this land before
25 everybody else and has a historical knowledge of the land

1 around Nuiqsut and recently, industrial personnel came perhaps
2 from VECO or other seismic personnel that came from the
3 industry and made presentations of maps or things that they
4 proposed to do around the vicinity and she came, she happened
5 to know that -- recognize there was some activity here, some
6 form of a meeting, she suspected, and came to see what was
7 happening and saw their presentations.

8 And they said that they would be doing something
9 tomorrow, they go get a permit from the North Slope Borough to
10 do seismic or things that they will want to develop similar to
11 things like Alpine. And if they do find something, that they
12 will put pipelines. And this kind of a attitude that they seem
13 to know that what will be happening. So see, they already seem
14 to know what's happening and quite confident that they want to
15 go ahead and see with these permits and be forward, so forward
16 in their attitude about, you know, this is just to let you know
17 this is what's going to be happening. And in looking at one of
18 the alternative, and Alternative A in the wide use -- or one of
19 the wide use areas was open to leasing, I think Alternative E,
20 they say that they'll go all over this property and do seismic
21 and look for oil and things like that and wherever they seem to
22 think they find oil, that from there, there'll be a pipeline
23 over land to the Prudhoe Bay pipeline to link it there to take
24 the oil out of here.

25 So there's other things that were discussed, not very

1 much alternatives was provided by him. She don't recollect who
2 this person is. And Fish Creek was marked up like it was the
3 area that was going to be done and the person, whoever it was,
4 making the presentation had made an inscription or designation
5 of a pretty big, broad area of land at Fish Creek and she
6 corrected him that this, that Fish Creek is just a river, all
7 of this land is not Fish Creek.

8 She alluded to other things that they are labeled duck
9 hunters and even though she's been here from the beginning when
10 ice melts and they'll go boating down towards the mouth of the
11 river out to the delta at far as an hour out to the sea to get
12 seals and things that are with animals or birds that are
13 prevalent down there, but not old squaw ducks and those other
14 little birds that were mentioned earlier. And sometimes when
15 the route is good, they'll go to the Fish Creek and around --
16 and especially through the Nugaluk (ph) Channel for these
17 things. And they were -- she's talking about Alpine now that
18 -- we came up as a result of not very much discussions but that
19 these people already had a permit and where there was not too
20 much rappature (sic) between the village and the industry but
21 that it just went up there. So after the fact that things have
22 been negotiated or discussed to see how to best determine what
23 people of the area down in Alpine.

24 She mentioned again that, like Thomas, that they don't
25 hunt the old squaw ducks. Yeah, I don't know any Eskimo that

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 hunts old squaw ducks or pintails around the Arctic Slope, even
2 if they are plentiful, but these are not very collectible in
3 our nutritional diet on the Arctic Slope and not just in
4 Nuiqsut, but I think throughout the Arctic Slope.

5 And then the folks here have been labeled as egg
6 poaching and things and that is not correct, the village does
7 not get any eggs at all, that perhaps this information may have
8 been misunderstood because much of these people that are doing
9 research have been going to talk with the Helmet's, because
10 when she goes down there to Helmet, she sees the evidence of a
11 lot of -- what do you call those (Inupiaq) -- anyway, dead
12 birds.....

13 MS. HARCHAREK: Stuffed animals.

14 MR. BROWER: Huh?

15 MS. HARCHAREK: Stuffed animals.

16 MR. BROWER: Stuffed ducks, stuffed birds. Stuffed
17 ducklings. It's not stuffing anyway. But they know that
18 birds, migratory birds nest quite a bit around the delta and
19 this information have been misled by statements from them and
20 the folks around in Helmet's Camp. Also, quite a bit of
21 goslings and nestingers (ph) from Iysuk (ph) by Cape Halkett
22 along the Harrison Bay to Fish Creek near the ocean on those
23 swampy areas. She's very concerned about that if the oil
24 companies come. Although we will benefit for our economics,
25 but we will benefit very little for our subsistence because of

1 the pipeline and because it will up affect the caribou
2 migration, it will displace -- may displace some of the nesting
3 areas of the waterfowl, shoreline birds, that she mentioned
4 from Cape Halkett around the Harrison Bay to Fish Creek and the
5 Colville River delta. Although the money is good, it's good to
6 receive it, but it goes really fast.

7 And one of the detrimental provisions in the moose
8 hunting in the game unit area Thomas mentioned is the month and
9 stuff is fine but there is a distance limitation to -- let's
10 see, where was that -- Anaktu, mouth of Anaktu. So this is
11 something that she is disturbed about that maybe that might be
12 something that needs to be made into consideration to provide
13 more hunting area and more access to more moose for the
14 community.

15 Nuiqsut is not like Barrow or the coastal villages
16 because those villages that are in the ocean front have a lot
17 of game -- more game to be caught right from the village but
18 not from Nuiqsut. Nuiqsut, you may have to go out to the ocean
19 and then from the ocean out as far as an hour's drive by boat
20 out to the sea to even find or go get some seals or over like
21 Barrow does, but it's not like Barrow.

22 Oil companies this winter really -- seems to be really
23 ambitious to go exploring, find things similar, find oil
24 reserve like Alpine and she's concerned, in light of that, for
25 the hunting areas. For example, recently, the Oolukpiok (ph)

1 has been a mooring site for the Nuiqsut subsistence hunters,
2 whale hunters primarily, and this closure has disrupted
3 harvested whale meat be delayed to be brought to Nuiqsut and it
4 has some detrimental impact in that this has been a safe
5 mooring, harboring place for Nuiqsut boaters, whalers, in the
6 past, and something should be done to make that accessible to
7 the community of Nuiqsut.

8 These wildlife folk that see it -- they've witnessed, I
9 guess they are wildlife folks, that walk in the country and
10 looking at birds and things in the Colville River delta, maybe
11 the east side, down by Ulumniak (ph), that's next to -- not far
12 from the old Nuiqsut site, they're monitoring these birds and
13 go to and fro to these places with a chopper. It upsets,
14 disrupts, displaces, perhaps some of their only opportunity to
15 go get their game, especially caribou, in the area are scared
16 and may their run off because of these impediments that arrive
17 are not natural. Naturally, they would walk along the coast
18 where they're at and be able to harvest their caribou. Fishing
19 or (Inupiaq) have been plenteous and caribou has been plenteous
20 this year because with the advent of late start of industrial
21 work, this year has -- may have to cause that but the caribou
22 has been plentiful in around Nuiqsut this fall. But she's
23 suspect that if activity persists throughout the year, it will
24 alter the hunting and game will no longer be visible and maybe --
25 may cause hunters to go much farther. This has regards to the

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 safety of hunters when they have to go that much farther for to
2 harvest their subsistence and additional resources.

3 It's like Thomas said, and I know that for a fact
4 myself, that North Slope Borough was not instrumental in
5 bringing the community back to Nuiqsut. I know that for a fact
6 and that is wrongly stated in the DEIS, as Thomas mentioned.
7 So Arctic Slope Regional Corporation which these people have
8 been in heavy discussions prior to moving here was the
9 forerunners and people who assisted in the resurrection and
10 reestablishment of the community of Nuiqsut is vested with
11 Arctic Slope Regional Corporation and perhaps Arctic Slope
12 Native Association at the time. I think they were more
13 instrumental in creating what we have -- or the North Slope
14 Borough and ASRC.

15 They've -- Arctic Slope has made -- come back here from
16 time to time on negotiations with these oil pine -- Alpine --
17 oil pine -- Alpine development and other things that have come
18 here related to the new ventures in trying to leverage
19 negotiations in the absence of the Nuiqsut and Kuukpik
20 community leaders and they've been instrumental in telling
21 them, you know, all right, what did you want? What have you
22 done wrong that you have to corrected over here? But they have
23 gotten the message and I think that you folks have pretty near
24 made your settlements to your advantage as of today. And most
25 of all, in these discussions, they want -- they truly want more

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 natural gas to better subsidize their cost of living in the
2 Nuiqsut.

3 That's it.

4 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you, Mr. Brower. Bernice
5 Kaigelak. State your name and you can begin.

6 MS. KAIGELAK: My name is Bernice Kaigelak and I'm 32
7 years old and I have lived here since I was eight years old. I
8 don't -- I'm not affiliated with Kuukpik Corporation or with
9 our Native Village of Nuiqsut and I strongly feel that we don't
10 have a neutral party in our community to better represent us.
11 I oppose the Alternatives of B, C, D and E because it does not
12 protect our land and our area.

13 In the past, when Bruce Babbitt was here, I let it be
14 known that I oppose the opening of NPR-A and I still feel
15 strongly about that because we haven't feel the effects of the
16 Alpine development. It's too soon. It's too early. The
17 people of this community need to feel what it's like to be that
18 close to a developing oil field. And then I think they could
19 better decide what's best for them instead of doing it now when
20 they don't even know how much that field over there is going to
21 affect this community.

22 As a child I grew up in a sod house with my
23 grandparents in Atkasuk and now today I live here with running
24 water, electricity and I drive a truck just like you all do.
25 It's been a very fast change from living subsistencely and not

1 knowing much about the Western lifestyle and to be pushed so
2 fast to where you can't live without any knowledge of the
3 Western living. Now, everyone is here is accustomed to living
4 that way and I'm sure the people of our community would like
5 the benefits that come with taxes and the stuff that comes with
6 oil. Sure, ARCO and Sohio come here every year, present us
7 with free gifts, but I feel very strongly that it should be
8 slowed down, this process, this opening of NPR-A. Maybe
9 somewhere down the line when people understand how it affects
10 us, that field over there, then maybe I would feel comfortable
11 deciding somewhere down the line it maybe okay, we can work
12 together.

13 I know I'm a shareholder of Kuukpik Corporation and
14 ASRC and I know they are in pursuit of making all this happen
15 in any way to bring revenues for them. I understand that.
16 That's just part of the Western society, that's come here and
17 taking over, but I feel I need to stand up, because my father
18 didn't stand up for himself. He already lost his right to his
19 land out in Prudhoe Bay. My grandparents had a sod house and a
20 cellar there. Now we can't even go over there. We have no
21 right to it even though my ancestors were there before the oil
22 fields were. And for some of the sites on NPR-A that maybe you
23 don't know about any unmarked graves or whatever and Native
24 allotments that are pending and not going nowhere. I think
25 we've lost enough already. It's time to stand up and say, no,

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 or slow down.

2 With these Alternatives of B, C, D and E, the reason
3 why am I opposing them is what do I know about designating the
4 Colville River, a wild and scenic river. Are they going to
5 stipulate fishing regulations on it? How do I know it's not on
6 the dotted line of your EIS draft there? What about this
7 proposing of a bird conservation area? Is that going to limit
8 me from hunting the geese and ducks that I do so freely? And
9 the 50 percent of the area where it's covered, it's not even
10 close to where we should be. I mean, where are we protected?

11 So I don't want to take too much time because it's late
12 and I know people have to go to work, but I would like to let
13 it be known that this needs to change somehow, the Alternatives
14 B, C and D. I don't know how you can make Nuiqsut be a part of
15 this to change that, but right now, I'd go with A because I
16 don't see any protection for our community.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you, Bernice, for your comments.

19 (Inupiaq)

20 The Honorable Mayor of Nuiqsut, Leonard Lampe.

21 MAYOR LAMPE: Good evening. My name is Leonard Lampe.
22 for the record. I'd like to thank Thomas, Joe, Ruth, Johnny
23 and Bernice for testifying tonight and thank everybody for
24 staying so late. Also, thank you for the opportunity to
25 comment tonight. I'm going to bring up a few reminders from

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 April and August meetings that Nuiqsut had commented on some of
2 the NPR-A. This will be a -- also a written comment will be
3 sent in the mail and available for residents who want a copy of
4 this written comment.

5 Back in April and August, the community felt very
6 strongly against the time limit of this proposal of the
7 development of NPR-A. We all stated that 18 months is too
8 short for the period of an impact statement to be made. We're
9 seeing proofs of that today of our statements not being in this
10 Draft EIS.

11 Another issue was the boundaries of the NPR-A for
12 planning of development. It was an issue of being too large of
13 an area to develop all at once. The east side covers a lot of
14 subsistence as well as traditional areas of the Nuiqsut people.
15 The community heavily depends on resources and access of
16 resources of the animals of NPR-A area. We give the same
17 information, testimony, as been given to this body and other
18 panels of the government agencies for 20 some years and these --
19 and our vital comments and concerns are not documented in your
20 Draft EIS. For many years, we've said these comments and
21 concerns, yet, they're not put in black and white in your 720
22 page document.

23 This community wants assurance that our children will
24 be able to live the traditional lifestyle that we and our
25 forefathers have lived for generations of harvesting the

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 resources. That's our main goal that we want assurance that
2 nothing will be changed of what we are doing. We've already
3 seen patterns of change today. We're concerned of the new
4 patterns of the traditional harvested animals because of
5 development in the area because of seismic and exploration. If
6 development occurs, we would like no boundaries identified to
7 prohibit subsistence activities by the government agencies.
8 Oil companies -- the big two oil companies tell us all the time
9 they will not prohibit us from using firearms, but these
10 restrictions and laws are beyond their control, they're on the
11 government agencies that restrict firearms.

12 Impact funds have always been an issue with the City of
13 Nuiqsut, knowing that this community is and will be affected
14 the most of these proposed developments, we share all NPR-A
15 impact funds with other villages that do not even see the
16 effects of impacts on hunters and fishermen who harvest the
17 animals of NPR-A and see the changes of lifestyle to the
18 people. Yet, they are compensated the same as this most
19 affected village. The community wants assurance that
20 traditional use areas by the Nuiqsut people will be excluded
21 from development and not taken away indefinitely by the
22 government. We also support a subsistence oversight panel that
23 will oversight the subsistence activities and make sure that
24 the subsistence is not being affected heavily by exploration
25 and development. Our people were always and always will be

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 here before and after the development. We will live the
2 affects so we want to please have you keep in mind that
3 decisions you make will affect our destination.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you, Leonard. (Inupiaq)
6 Shara Kunaknana.

7 MS. KUNAKNANA: Good evening. My name is Shara
8 Kunaknana. I got no school, a little bit speak English.
9 (Inupiaq)

10 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you, Shara. The last name is
11 spelled K-u-n-a-k-n-a-n-a. Shara Kunaknana stated that she had
12 never gone to school and would not be able to speak here in
13 English, but she's real concerned about the animals that the
14 village have harvested here in this area of land that the
15 village used for hunting. That during the years that she had
16 been living from the beginning, that they survived not by
17 having the commodities that the Western world have, but did
18 have some of that only during the summertime when they had the
19 ships or the boats are available to transport these areas -- to
20 certain areas here within the coastal areas, but she did live
21 on the land, the ocean by harvesting through subsistence way of
22 living, hunting for food regardless of whether it may be
23 caribou or it may be waterfowl or it may be fish, but these are
24 very, very good to eat, especially when they're new and fresh
25 and that this was always a blessing for her.

1 And including those that grow during the summertime,
2 the berries or other things that are edible. What would happen
3 if something ever happened to these things so that the area
4 that we have becomes barren so that we won't be able to harvest
5 what we harvest before? During the course of her life, these
6 things weren't very plentiful, but there were some there that
7 were not even seen in early 1900's but are being available now
8 for harvest for food. Very recently, she stated that people
9 came , I don't know where, probably from Barrow or some other
10 place, requesting that certain areas of subsistence hunting be
11 mapped together. That they're being used by the Village of
12 Nuiqsut to map the area where the harvesting of animals, of
13 fish or even those that grow would be identified, especially,
14 the area of Fish Creek area.

15 She appreciated the opportunity to be able to be here
16 and present it even though that time is running away from us.
17 I don't know that allows every thing, but that's what the
18 elder, Shara Kunaknana, stated.

19 MS. KUNAKNANA: (Inupiaq) My name's Shara Kunaknana
20 again. (Inupiaq)

21 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you, Shara. One thing she wanted
22 to express at the start of her comment was that in talking
23 about her late husband, there were times when people were able
24 to come and tape record through tape the stories, the past of
25 various areas of living in this area. At the present now, they

1 have never -- she has never heard those stories that are played
2 or were copied through manuscripts so that these tapes of
3 stories that are true stories have never even been used and
4 wanted to know why all that work was done and that nothing was
5 used to benefit the people in this area.

6 Yeah, do you have any more comments that you want to
7 make?

8 MS. BURNELL: Nelson.

9 MR. AHVAKANA: Yeah.

10 MS. BURNELL: (Inupiaq)

11 MR. AHKIVIANA: My name is Arch Ahkiviana. I'm a
12 subsistence hunter. I was raised in that area, Teshekpuk Lake,
13 that area. (Inupiaq)

14 MR. AHVAKANA: Thank you Archie. Well, I like these
15 short ones. I don't really have to thing if I'm going to
16 interpret. His name is Archie Ahkiviana and I'm going to spell
17 Ahkiviana, A-k-i-v-i-a-n-a.

18 MR. AHKIVIANA: A-h-k.

19 MR. AHVAKANA: A-k.....

20 MR. AHKIVIANA: A-h-k.

21 MR. AHVAKANA: You got H?

22 MR. AHKIVIANA: A-h-k.

23 MR. AHKIVIANA: Okay. A-h-k-i-v-i-a-n-a.

24 Mr. Ahkiviana supported the statement that Mr. Thomas Napageak
25 had stated earlier in his comments about the Draft EIS in that

1 those comments that were made and collected during the various
2 times, ever since the village was established, had never been
3 incorporated to the Draft EIS.

4 He remembers having been raised in the Teshekpuk area,
5 that that area that is being proposed, which is 4.6 million
6 acres in the northeast area of Teshekpuk in NPR-A, Alaska, has
7 been used by subsistence hunters ever since he could remember.
8 It's the area that when other areas within the close area of
9 the villages like in Barrow, there's no game of any type,
10 people usually go to the Teshekpuk area to harvest game that
11 they don't have in the close proximity of various villages.

12 He stated he they support the possibility of not
13 opening the area that is designated for EIS primarily because
14 it's the livelihood of all of the North Slope people.

15 If there aren't any more I've requested even before the
16 North Slope people have -- North Slope Borough staff, before
17 they even make their comments, since I was part of this village
18 and I so state that living here for about 11 years allows me to
19 qualify, to make my own statement. In doing that, I would like
20 to step down from being a Hearing Officer and address my
21 comments as an Arctic Native Association Director of Tribal
22 Government Services.

23 As you very well know, my name is Nelson Ahvakana. I
24 was born and raised in Barrow, but I was here in this village
25 for 11 years before I resigned the post that I was holding here.

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 and went back to Barrow. During those years, I've experienced
2 a tremendous amount of change in this village. The areas that
3 are used by this village are impacted by the industry,
4 primarily because the oil and gas is more important for those
5 companies. They included languages in their studies indicating
6 that the certain areas that they have leased on would be open
7 for subsistence.

8 One good example of this is Prudhoe Bay and Kuparuk.
9 Even though that time after time, they have stated that the
10 Native Village of Nuiqsut membership could use these areas for
11 subsistence use, whenever they try to do this, the enforcement
12 officers are right next to them at all times. They allow that
13 this area is prohibited from hunting. All the western side of
14 the Colville River and the rivers that they used to harvest
15 game, to harvest fish, waterfowl and to use as camping areas
16 because traditionally, these areas have been used by their
17 forefathers. They continue to try and do this but what do they
18 do? They are blocked completely by the industry. Even though
19 that it's written, it's black and white on paper, Native people
20 could subside in these areas, you try and do that, you get
21 jailed.

22 Now, this village is the only village within the Arctic
23 Slope Region that is impacted a lot more than the other
24 villages. It's the livelihood that is in question here in this
25 village. I would like to see and hear and allow you to hear,

COMPUTER MATRIX

3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 if your ears are open, to the comments and the concerns of this
2 village. It's important to them. How would you feel in your
3 area of where you're from and you're allowed to do gardening
4 and it's your only livelihood, it's your lifestyle and that is
5 taken away from you? How would you feel? What would your
6 concerns would be? How would you feel within yourself as a
7 human being? I would assume that you would have been very,
8 very mad because your livelihood is taken away from you. You
9 go into court, I know for a fact that you would do that because
10 that's part of the Western economy.

11 Here in our villages, our people don't have the
12 monetary values to do that. They don't have any of that. They
13 don't have the expertise. Nobody wants to be -- nobody wants
14 to give a helping hand, but they are more than willing to
15 destroy the traditional values of our people. NPR-A, Alaska
16 which is located on the northeast side of Teshekpuk, which is
17 4.6 million acres was the only area that these people here in
18 Nuiqsut presently have used for subsistence. The other areas
19 are prohibited. Even the coastal areas are prohibited and
20 they're completely surrounded and the only thing that is
21 available to them is what's up there (points upward) nothing.
22 You can't live by the sky or by the air. You may breathe, yes,
23 because it's for everybody, but the livelihood, the traditional
24 subsistence lifestyle of this village, the people, my brothers,
25 my sisters, uncles and aunts, cousins are trying to survive,

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 trying to live the lifestyle that they know, that they
2 appreciate, that they were given as a God-given gift to them
3 because they've survived over 4,000 years and then oil was
4 discovered.

5 They weren't even consulted with when Alaska was sold,
6 their lands were sold. They weren't even consulted with in
7 1923 when NPR-A-4 was put aside as natural reserve for the sake
8 of our government. What would happen if the government were
9 told to leave the area that they own? There seems to be more
10 concern about the saving of scenic rivers because they're good
11 to see. What about the life of our people? Isn't that more
12 important than setting aside something that people would just
13 look at? These people here are very concerned. They want you
14 to hear and not only that, they want your help to allow them to
15 live accordingly the lifestyle that they know. Are you willing
16 to assist and to help or are you going to say, behind their
17 back, who cares, they're only 4,000 strong? We have cities
18 that are a lot more populated than the Inupiat people.

19 We have never, never been told that we're Indians.
20 We're not Indians, we're Inupiat. We're Eskimos. There is a
21 difference. We have never been conquered. Our people have
22 never been conquered. But our people were willing to share
23 their knowledge, to share their expertise. For what? So that
24 those people that receive their knowledge, their expertise
25 could destroy them? That is exactly what is being done here.

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

1 You're destroying our lifestyle, our way of life. Subsistence
2 cannot be defined. There's no word for it. I don't know how
3 long agencies within the state, within the federal government,
4 have been trying to work to define that word. There's no
5 definition, but within our own people it's defined within our
6 culture, it's part of our culture. It's part of our heritage.
7 It's a way of life.

8 So I urge that you not only hear but do what you're
9 hearing. (Inupiaq) I rest my case.

10 MAYOR LAMPE: Because it's getting late and the elders
11 are getting really tired, I'm going to go ahead and have our
12 City raffle, our door prize. Just want to let you guys know
13 that the city paid for -- this is for one drum of motor gas or
14 diesel, your choice. BLM didn't pay for this, neither of the
15 oil companies or anybody else. The City put up the money for
16 this. I also want the guests to know that we pay \$3.50 a
17 gallon over here so we may be the closest ones to oil
18 development, but we have the highest prices in the United
19 States for gasoline.

20 (Raffle of items - off record comments)

21 MR. BROWER: (Inupiaq) Just making brief comments that
22 we'll investigate what happened to those original transcripts
23 of those scoping meetings we conducted. I have my transcripts
24 and, Dee, I'll work with Anne or whoever, Sharon, finding
25 whatever happened to the other transcripts so that they can be

1 noted in the -- and correct those, I think Jana is well aware
2 of what we heard and the historical data that was supplied on
3 behalf of Nuiqsut. We'll try to correct those when we get
4 back.

5 Karen, (Inupiaq)

6 MS. BURNELL: My name is Karen Burnell. I'm
7 representing the North Slope Borough. The comments that I'm
8 going to speak to are the same comments that were delivered by
9 the Mayor, Ben Nageak in Atqasuk and I believe you have a copy
10 of those comments, so instead of -- in the interest of time,
11 instead of reading through all the comments in English, because
12 you already have a copy of them, I'm going to just summarize
13 what we've got here in Inupiaq for the Nuiqsut residents.

14 (Inupiaq)

15 MR. AHVAKANA: (Inupiaq)

16 MR. BROWER: (Inupiaq)

17 MR. AHVAKANA: With that, I would like to turn the
18 meeting back over to Mr. Ritchie.

19 MR. RITCHIE: I'd really like to know every once in
20 awhile when Arnold speaks in Inupiaq, he gets away from us just
21 a little bit. Well, I want to thank you all for being here
22 tonight and we're about on the same record as we were in Barrow
23 last night so thank you for the input and comments. Some
24 important things were brought up tonight and taking Nelson's
25 advice, we did listen to those and we want you to know that.

1 We're most -- they're most important. This village is the most
2 impacted. We know that and continue to need your input. And
3 you can continue to send your comments in until the 12th of
4 February. We're sensitive to this thing.

5 MAYOR LAMPE: Correction.

6 MS. WISELY: 10th of February.

7 MR. RITCHIE: 10th.....

8 MAYOR LAMPE: 10th of February.

9 MR. RITCHIE: 10th of February. Thank you, Mayor.
10 We're concerned about not having some of the facts right in
11 this document and that will be corrected. We do take this
12 serious and will not destroy the subsistence lifestyle that
13 many have so eloquently talked about. If this develop there --
14 in this development, there is no plans exist to do that at the
15 present time.

16 I don't subsist and I don't fully understand that
17 definition that we talked about, but I hunt and I fish and I
18 try and convince my wife that that's subsistence, but she knows
19 better.

20 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Sport's hunting.

21 MR. RITCHIE: That's what she says, but we're trying to
22 understand it and we're trying to do the right thing here and
23 hopefully, we can on the North Slope if all of us work together
24 on that. Thank you again for being here and we'll see you on
25 our next meeting.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MS. HARCHAREK: All right.

(Off record at 11:35 p.m.)

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

COMPUTER MATRIX
3520 Knik Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Phone/Fax (907) 243-0668
e-mail jpk@alaska.net

**Translations
Selected
Testimonies**

Nuiqsut

Nelson Ahvakana: At this time our meeting will be starting. And before we start I will ask Honorable Mayor Leonard Lampe to start it off.

Nuiqsut Mayor Leonard Lampe: Thanks to those of you residents of Nuiqsut who made it to this meeting. I want to thank our guests also for being here tonight. I think Gene is going to introduce his staff and then I'll ask Arnold to introduce the North Slope Borough staff as well as anybody else that is here if you could introduce yourself just to our residents. Tonight we're discussing NPRA, the draft EIS Impact Statements. So I think if you can give a presentation first and then we'll probably be open for discussion and comments and questions and answers. Once again, thank you for coming here. I know there is a lot of concerns relating to NPRA as Nuiqsut is pretty much in the heart of NPRA and impacted. Once again, thank you and welcome to Nuiqsut. We'll have Sarah before we have introductions, have Sarah open the meeting with a prayer.

Sarah Kunaknana: Opened the meeting with a prayer at this time. (Her prayer is not translated. She says it in Iñupiaq.

Dee Ritchie: Introduces his staff and thanks those who have come to attend the meeting. Arnold Brower Jr. is given time to introduce his staff at this time afterwards.

Arnold Brower Jr.: Traveling also with us is Niayuq who is also going to help us out. You all know him. Jana Harcharek is also here who is with the IHLC Division of the North Slope Borough Planning Department, Dan Levington of GIS who works with lands, and Becky Gay who has worked on this NPRA for the Mayor's office in Anchorage. Harry Brower Jr. is one of our employees who work with Wildlife, and Karen Burnell our Planning Director. You also know Tupaaq Opie. John Dunham moved to Admin. & Finance but he used to work in the Permitting & Zoning Division. We are still working with him on the NPRA.

Karen Burnell: We got him back.

Arnold Brower Jr.: Oh you did get him back. That's good. You did a good job doing that then. I did not like it when they had tried to move him to Admin. & Finance because he has been doing a fine job in the Permitting & Zoning Division. Also, ... who did I not introduce? Our Mayor could not make it to this meeting so we came. The draft that we compiled from the previous time that we were here includes some of what you Nuiqsut residents said. We did not forget them. They will soon become a part of the rules and regulations and become available for the public to see. At this time they are not available. I say this just to let you know. I also thank these people here. I've been happy to see the second in command, who is

with the State of Alaska, come here for this meeting. Niayuq will be doing the translating this evening throughout the hearing. They will want to hear from you residents if you feel there is something missing from the materials which we compiled from the previous hearing. Niayuq will be talking about it now.

Mr. Ritchie: (English).

Unidentified female on page 6 of the transcripts in English, line 18 is: Taqulik (?)

Arnold Brower Jr.: Ah, Taqulik. How terrible! I'm sorry.

Mr. Yokel: (English).

Nelson Ahvakana: Page 8, line 20 of the transcripts in English. I will translate for those of you who don't understand English what Dee just talked about. The Bureau of Land Management today works getting ready by writing out what the 4.6 million acres of land means at the northeastern part of what is known as NPRA Alaska. They renamed all of it NPRA Alaska what used to be known as NPR 4. So the 4.6 million acres, this particular part of land here (sounds like he is pointing to it as he is talking) but it includes the village of Nuiqsut. Your village is right within that boundary. So they're talking about how to best settle that matter in the event that it is given to the oil companies or whether a decision is made not to make it available to the oil companies but to allow what is already available to them. These five maps outline very well what is going to be discussed.

The first one is a proposal not to open it up and it has been identified in the map as the area colored green. It means not to make it available to the oil companies but to keep it exactly the way it is now.

The other includes Tasiqpak (Teshikpak spelling in English) is also green and means not to make it available to the oil companies. But this yellow area here means it could be sold to the oil companies. That area encompasses your village. If it is sold to the oil companies, they will begin looking for oil from that area.

The third located above Tasiqpak means not to make it available to the oil companies. It just about includes Nuiqsut to make it available to the oil companies. It can be sold to the oil companies and when it happens they will be looking for oil in this particular region.

The fourth is the area excluding the Tasiqpak and is the area furthest away. I believe that is the area where the caribou go to have their calves. Ducks are also seen there as well. That small area wouldn't be accessible to the oil companies but the area that extends beyond it would be. The area beyond it would be available for the oil companies to do their drilling.

The fifth is the 4.6 million acres which would be available to the oil companies. Those are the five possibilities they want to present to you local residents and to hear your views on them, you being the Iñupiat people up here. They have called them alternatives. They are all possible except for the first one which wouldn't be available to the oil companies. It could not be opened for any reason. But as I said the others, there are rules that prohibit them from becoming open and available. The oil companies want to know, they say, if they can be given access to drill, what dangers would face your village that include your subsistence lifestyle, your traditional camping sites, and also want to find out from you what it is that could hurt your lifestyle here. So that is what they want to hear from you this evening and encourage you to speak about your concerns. The alternatives that they've outlined, all five, are those that they say you can approve or disapprove at this meeting. The other part is whatever is that can hurt your subsistence way of life whether it is on hunting game, fishing or picking berries/plant life. That's what they want to hear.

They told you that I would be leading the meeting. I had told them at the prior meeting when they asked me to be their translator that I would be able to but that I would first need to let my superior know beforehand. It hadn't entered my mind that I would be approached to lead the meeting because I thought they would lead it themselves. They notified me on Friday about it before we were to leave on a Monday that I would be in charge of the hearings. I would like to just let you know the procedures of this hearing this evening. First, there is Joe Kolizinski who is a court reporter and he is over there. Everything that you people say is going to be recorded by him. Later your comments will be translated into English on paper by them. Whether you speak in Iñupiaq or English it does not matter. If you do speak in Iñupiaq it will be translated into English and vice versa with those who speak in English. This is so you all will be able to understand what is being said at this hearing. The real reason that we are all here tonight together is the Bureau of Land Management Draft Integrated Activity Plan: The Environmental Impact Statement for the Northeast portion of the Naval Petroleum Reserve Alaska. That is the reason why they've come. The two regulations and their importance that they drafted is what they are going by. They call that ANILCA. In section A10 where it talks about Subsistence and Evaluation and Finding. They desire to open it up by following the rules and regulations found in that particular part under ANILCA. Another one is what is called National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA being the acronym). ANILCA stands for Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. BLM strictly abides by those two laws which have brought them here to this hearing to hear your concerns. This evening we will look forward to hearing from those two laws that were passed and what is going on presently at this time with them. It would be good if you would express your concerns in a manner

that is clear pertaining to the five draft EIS on Subsistence, the use of the land, on animals, or other topics as well as camping, whatever it is that you people use in your lives or depend on. This could include camp sites where your cabins are situated that they will want to hear and find out about. Additionally, lay out some rules and/or regulations for them to abide by that you would like to see happening because they will also want to hear that. There are others here attending including the North Slope Borough whose desire it is to assist you in any way possible since funding was sent to them directly. They have asked for the Borough's help to get their job done.

They would like to hear about those things that could do harm to you residents of this village, directly or indirectly. Today in our lives, land for which they have control over they can say or do whatever they want making it impossible for others to have access to such land because of the rules and regulations that they have implemented. Here where we live it is not easy because we have existed here since time immemorial and used everything that exists on our land to do our living as Iñupiat people and we have already shown how we subsist off the land that we live in. They also would like to find out if the draft EIS is appropriate to use. They would like you people to indicate where you feel there needs to be changes made before they finalize it. The draft EIS has been made available to cyberspace-namely the Internet and that was on November 24th. They didn't actually get on the internet until the month of December. The reason that they made themselves available over the internet was to answer questions the public had with respect to their type of work. They also did this to make sure the draft EIS was as complete as they could make it and asked for suggestions and/or recommendations via the internet. The meeting we're having tonight is also going to take place in Anaktuvuk Pass, Atkasuk, Barrow, Wainwright, Anchorage, and Fairbanks. There are also those in Washington D.C. and San Francisco, California, who are listening to the concerns of people who live in the regions that will be impacted. The draft EIS hearings will continue since they started on December 12th, 1997. It is going to continue whether directly through this hearing or by internet. It should be postmarked by February 10th, 1998. You can express your concerns in person here, via the internet, or by fax to them. Also, addresses and phone numbers, including the internet address, have been posted for you to take as well as forms for you to fill out behind the table that you saw as you came in. All of your concerns will be gathered and reviewed before BLM applies it to the Final draft Environmental Impact Statement. Once they complete that, it will be available starting June, 1998. You will need to come up to where the chair is in front of the microphone to talk. Before you start, begin by introducing yourself. If you belong to an organization, indicate which organization you belong to. You may begin talking after you do these two things in the beginning. Write down your concerns and have them ready to give to me so that I can

translate in Iñupiaq. After I have translated it, or someone else has because there are others here who can do the translating too should my throat give out that another person will need to translate. After they have been translated they will be given to Joe and he will take them from there. This evening I encourage you all to speak about the draft Environmental Impact Statement. Please do not talk about previous meetings/hearings but about those things that will be impacted negatively with respect to the draft EIS. You have all subsisted off of the land that is in question and I would appreciate it very much if you could stick to the topic at hand. These people helping here too would appreciate it. Even if what you have to say is difficult, that is fine. Also, please listen carefully to the person who is talking. Don't talk amongst yourselves or be distracting but listen to what any person has to say. I'm going to open it at this time. Anyone can come up to talk and I would appreciate it.

Johnny Ahtuagaruak: I want to say something.

Nelson Ahvakana: Come over here. Say your name before you start talking.

Page 8, line 21.

Johnny Ahtuagaruak: My name is Johnny Ahtuagaruak. I started the work pertaining to the lands here since I left Barrow long ago. I want to say that Hubert Nukapigak, Tommy Kunaknana, and myself worked to incorporate the village of Nuiqsut to make it possible for people to move to this village. As I looked over the land, I am grateful for the people who have worked to keep our corporation going. The wives of the late Edward Nukapigak and Samuel Kunaknana are here right now. They were the two I worked with back when the village of Nuiqsut was just getting incorporated and our families moved. That is very true what I've just said. I have been expecting some kind of financial reward or appreciation since I was one of the people involved in getting our village started. We have worked hard to be where we are at. Thank you.

Thomas Napageak: Thank you. My name is Thomas Napageak, a resident of Nuiqsut. I am going to talk this evening as the President of the Native Village of Nuiqsut. First of all, when BLM people came, I spoke in English as well as writing on paper. I do not see in this draft the things we spoke about at the previous meeting. What the people of Nuiqsut said are not to be found in the materials here. You heard Nelson indicate that we talk about those that could have negative impact on us. To name a few of them, there is what you hunt in terms of game. In 1972, you residents of Nuiqsut made a decision to return to your ancestral grounds, the home of your parents. It was not the North Slope Borough who decided for you. You decided on your own to come here to live. They are saying that it was the North Slope Borough who moved you residents here. That, they're

saying is how Nuiqsut got started. Arctic Slope Regional Corporation subsidized you, giving you the grub to make the trip here back in 1972 so that you could reclaim the land where your ancestors lived. Those that they would like to take away from us begin with the whales although they spoke well about whaling itself. That is, the beluga. The report says that although we try to hunt the beluga whales, we do not catch them. I don't recall a time when I went hunting for beluga whales. I've never seen a beluga here. But they've written in the report that we are a people who normally hunt beluga whales. That is an error on their part.

On the seals, you young people know that when the river floods, it starts flowing out into the ocean in front of our village affecting the seals that include the bearded seals in the spring month of June. In their report, they have written about Henry Nashaknik making a report. You have heard Nelson telling us to talk about those that will be impacting our lives. Henry Nashaknik's report is talking about a place that is seventy-five to one hundred miles away, east of here, at a place called McClure Islands and saying that it is the only place where seals are hunted. At a place called *Siklaqtitaq* when people like Nukapigak were still living they used to go there to hunt for seals. Whereas we, those of us who live here, our concerns haven't been recorded from what I see right here. Did you two understand what I just said?

?: It's understandable.

Thomas Napageak: If you do not record what is being said here, such as what I am proceeding to get out for you all to hear, I will not be blaming the white people. I will put the blame on you and on your recorders, those of you who are doing the writing and those who are listening. End of Side 1A.

Side 1B: Right now we are located on 26A unit and that was where we were put when the Department of Fish & Game distributed the lands. The report says that when duck hunting season arrives, we go hunting for ducks. Canadian geese and the black brant are listed as endangered species. Because we have always hunted the black brant, we have been put in the report as such. And that's a bogus statement. Obie and Nageak did that statement. They are right here. That is what the employees of the North Slope Borough are treating us like. Our people are being fined for hunting the black brant and they're trying to put our people in jail. You know that. We live in 26 Unit A. There is quite a few, including people like Kowalski, who have reported about our hunting. People like Obie and Nageak (Ben Nageak when he used to be working for the Wildlife Management). I am not finished talking about everything they said we did with hunting ducks and geese. They went on to say that we hunt oldsquaw and the pintail ducks. Who here can say that they hunt pintail ducks? Who

here has hunted the pintail ducks? That is what has been put in the draft EIS here. Pintail ducks, whoever at those? Have you? I know you resided here.

Nelson Ahvakana: Don't point to me. I'm just here.

Thomas Napageak: I am grateful for Sarah and Samuel Kunaknana who have had the courage to speak when they have in the past. What they put in the report is not as long as it should be. They stated in the report that Kuukpik was the only place where fishing was done. Nelson, you know, in the summer when it is time to fish for large, round-nosed whitefish the place called Tillabruaq gets filled with them as well as the entrance to Itqiliq. Nigliq river gets filled with nets all the way to the point where it begins. We do not go to Kuukpiluk in the summer months. Then we enter Fish creek and that is where hunting sites and cabins have been built. That is where they build racks for drying fish and for drying caribou meat. That is what is not found in their report. I see that they have reported about Uvlutuuq. Do you know where Uvlutuuq is located?

Nelson Ahvakana: Yes, I know where it is.

Thomas Napageak: They have said in the report that Uvlutuuq is the place where we do our hunting when boating season arrives.

Sarah Kunaknana: We have not gone to Uvlutuuq to do our boating.

Thomas Napageak: It is written in this document here. Examples such as these are what hurt me deep inside emotionally. Where are our speeches that we made? Fuel and gasoline used to run our snowmachines and outboard motors run high as part of our expenses. The report they compiled as the Nuiqsut household expenditures on subsistence activities. These result include only those households that participated in census survey. Probably no one spends more than \$10,000.00. A snowmachine alone costs about that much. An evinrude \$12,000.00. Those are what we use to hunt. They think that we don't spend a lot of money to subsist here. We longer use oars to do our hunting when we are in our boats. We use evinrude outboard motors. We don't hunt pintail ducks. I'm sorry-I am not a person who hunts pintail ducks.

Nelson Ahvakana: I don't think that I have ever shot a pintail duck as far as I have been alive.

Thomas Napageak: I spoke earlier about us living in an area known as 26 A Unit. You all know that that area is being controlled by the Department of Fish & Wildlife. Arnold, you are aware of that. The statement reads Brower,

Obie. It states further that we start hunting for moose in the month of July through October. In 26A Unit, we were told by Fish & Game to begin hunting after August 1st for moose. We may break the rules from time to time, but I can say that we do not go that far as the report is saying right here. I want you all to know that. It says that when Kuukpik water starts going down and depleting as they hunt for moose, they would stop hunting because of the conditions making them stop such as an inability to carry moose on our backs and travel by snowmachine is difficult.

?: Boy, they are really lying.

Thomas Napageak: How are you going to translate that? These are written statements in this draft.

Nelson Ahvakana: Look at the others, not me.

Thomas Napageak: I'm talking to you. I wanted to first give this to you people who we're meeting with. Allow me to set aside my accusations for now. You came up and put yourself in front of us and because of that, you are asking to be accused.

Nelson Ahvakana: You are only fooling yourself by doing that. These people don't know me.

Thomas Napageak: You can't talk back to me because you are a panelist and I am still talking.

Page 10, line 8:

Nelson Ahvakana: If you do not want me to talk back to you, direct your talking to someone else instead of towards me.

Thomas Napageak: (?). I've got the floor. Will you shut up! (Page 10, line 9 english.) Iqallipik goes all the way to Judy Creek, you know that. (?). And they're saying that they are hunting grounds. What they said about fishing for whitefish at Kuukpik is true. While that is true, it is most true that another place where they fish for whitefish is Nuiqsagruaq. You also know that from here all the way to the end of (?) those fishing for whitefish would fish from the frozen waters. I don't see it recorded in here. I am talking about those that could hurt us.

Nelson Ahvakana: That's good. That's what they want to hear. Keep talking about them.

Thomas Napageak: These five that they are presenting, I've only talked about just a part of the whole picture, without them fixing their report,

you people read them by finding out where Nuiqsut is located and correct them. I cannot even begin to choose one from the five they are presenting to us that pertains to our lives. Thank you.

Page 11, line 5 (Nelson Ahvakana): How far is it?

Page 11, line 20 (Nelson Ahvakana): It is right here. It is not many miles up the coast. It is at the mouth of Nigliq.

Thomas Napageak: Arnold, do you know about attinniq?

Arnold Brower Jr.: What?

Thomas Napageak: About Attinniq.

Arnold Brower Jr.: Yes.

Thomas Napageak: When the river floods, near the mouth of Nigliq river it becomes filled with a hole or thin spot in sea ice that has melted as the river breaks up. When it reaches the sea that is the time that they begin to hunt for seals, through that thin spot in the sea ice that has melted. They hunt for bearded seals and other types of seals.

Arnold Brower Jr.: That is the reason why I called it the delta rather than calling it by Harrison Bay, the area in front of it. Not Harrison Bay, not all of it.

Page 12, line 9 (Nelson Ahvakana): Tirragruaq.

Page 12, line 10 (Nelson Ahvakana): Nigliq.

Page 12, line 19 (English should say): who's the President of Native Village of Nuiqsut trust these issues from the draft that BLM has made. Everything that was said by these people has never been put in EIS and yet (rest of the sentence is fine).

Page 20, line 8 (Nelson Ahvakana): At this time if there are other people who would like to come and speak, I encourage you to do so.

Page 18, line 4 (Nelson is translating for the elders who aren't able to understand english very well the speech that Joe Nukapigak gave. Translation back to english is not being done because it is a translation to the speech.)

Page 18, line 6 (Nelson Ahvakana): For the record Arnold is going to translate for Ruth Nukapigak who is coming to talk. Say your name first before you begin.

Page 18, line 7: I've been a council member and other organizations. As I was listening to people talking and about making some corrections on the report that was prepared by BLM, people most capable of doing everything in english unlike me who is limited in the english language. I am standing here with the rest of you who are here now, you who are capable of being something. I am also a council member, the council being the ones who work with rules and regulations in the matters pertaining to our village. Although I don't speak english, I know what needs to be done to make things right and to know right from wrong.

Ever since I grew up and began to live independent from my parents, I have lived here and subsisted off of this land for many years. Not too long ago representatives from the oil companies had come to our village, several of them, I'm not sure their title but they were sent by VECO. They had come to show us local residents material and they were very gung-ho in their demeanor. I did not know they were here but they met just about every day with the local residents and found out by accident when I came to their meeting thinking there was going to be a meeting going on. And so one of them said that when they arrive Barrow tomorrow they would be applying for a permit about the material that they were showing us. So they said that they would be applying for a permit. So we asked them, I did anyway through an interpreter, if they were planning on doing the same thing that they did with the Alpine project what was it that they were going to do? He replied that if oil was discovered, like the Alpine project, they would be constructing a pipeline down there. They were very gung-ho about it, being very sure that they would get the permit they were seeking to attain. They also said that they would be showing us alternatives to choose from. This big area here, they said, if the people choose this, they will be doing seismic work all over. That is, this biggest area right here is where they would be doing it. All of it. The other one is slightly different, whichever one they choose, whether it is the smaller one. They had named this one here Fish Creek but we had them change it because it was not where Fish Creek actually is. They had named that whole region Fish Creek. We told them that it was not Fish Creek, all of it. So they said that they would go ahead and change it. They must have made the change since then. That is a prime example of how naive the White people are when they set out to do something when they made that assumption naming it Fish Creek.

I was listening to them say that we hunt ducks. I have been hunting game for many many years. It is because I love to hunt that I am still doing it to this day. I love to go fishing. I love to follow my son Jonah every year just when the ice begins moving down there and it takes us one hour travel time to get there. That is where we go to hunt for seals. The distance is quite far traveling one hour from here to there but we make it. The residents of Nuiqsut use Fish Creek in their subsistence activities. In addition Nigliq area is used extensively where they do their fishing and in

the summer months when the fish enter it, fish nets can be seen all the way down.

When Alpine was said to be beginning despite the arguments we had with the oil companies against it, they are not honest with us. I am going to call them dishonest people. Wildlife Service employees, in particular, are the ones who have treated us in the same way too. They do this by drafting materials without our knowledge. Wildlife Service employees have allies with Helmet's Camp. When you go into their homes you will see on the second floor of that house every kind of stuffed ducks. There are all kinds of ducks that you will see there on display on the second floor of that house. A person can see them there. I saw them when someone took me to the second floor of that house. He probably is the one who creates trouble for us residents of Nuiqsut because they have people like them to do their hunting for them when hunting season comes. And when they reported in the documents that it is a fact that we hunt pintail ducks, I thought how untrue those reports were. We do not even touch the pintail ducks which we see in our village. They can be seen just outside our homes in small puddles of water. This spring things have been different in our village. We have not have as many pintail ducks as ptarmigans. But there have been small birds seen here that normally aren't seen every year. They must have come from somewhere. I also got angry when they said earlier of how we residents of Nuiqsut hunt for eggs. We do not hunt for duck eggs. Also at the mouth of Nigliṅaurat black brant used to nest there by the hundreds. There were so many that they looked like bowls from a distance filled with eggs. We could have hunted them if we chose to. When they flew away, it looked like there was a big, black cloud. But we do not hunt them. Although when the white-fronted goose (?) come, they do hunt them. When the thin ice near the mouth of the river breaks up, that is when they start duck hunting. We, the residents of Nuiqsut go there to hunt for ducks when they arrive. I do not know how the ducks that nest along the sea coast are doing because it has been so long since we lived there before we moved back to Nuiqsut. There is a very big nesting area along the sea coast though but since we moved here some time ago, we do not know whether it is still that way. In the direction facing the inland where Isuk is also an area where geese nest. They look like moulting ducks where they are not able to fly. That area along the sea coast has a lot of game. There are also a lot of caribou that can be seen in the summer months. Our subsistence activities could very well be diminished if the oil companies move into our land and build whatever equipment that they want to do the work that they are pursuing. The very area where we do our subsisting is about to have a pipeline go through it also. I wonder where the caribou will travel through this summer when they begin migrating this way when the pipeline is built through their usual route low to the ground. Maybe they will change their route and begin traveling a long ways away to cross. A caribou in the summer months when it gets hot

here does not fear anyone when he has to run to where it is the coolest in order to run from the very warm temperatures. They're unafraid. If the pipeline is going to be built low to the ground, it is very possible that moose will destroy it just to cross over it when Alpine is opened up. I am happy to be receiving money in exchange for having the oil companies build a pipeline but at the same time it is no lie that money goes as fast as it comes. I wonder how we are going to subsist if the game we hunt, including the ducks and the geese disappear here. Another thing that we have been given as the point that we can hunt for moose is the area at the mouth of Anaqtuuq. We have been told that we cannot hunt for moose past it. We cannot hunt past it, we've been told. When the residents of Nuiqsut begin hunting for moose, they are not able to get a moose right away and very often get a moose right at the end of the moose hunting season. The village of Nuiqsut is not like Barrow. When you live on the coast, like Barrow, there is a lot of game to catch. You don't have to travel very far either to catch it. That includes the geese, and seals, etc. But when you live inland, like Nuiqsut, you have to travel quite a distance to the coast to hunt. The oil companies this winter have been very determined to get what they are after. It must be the VECO company. They've said that they will be constructing a pipeline if they discover oil there. What will they do about the traditional hunting grounds? I do not know what they have plans to do with the hunting grounds. The hunting grounds extend all the way to Fish Creek.

Another area that is no longer accessible is Uuliktuq. Last fall because ARCO made Uuliktuq inaccessible, it took over one week to haul two whales back at Cross Island. That has made things very difficult for us. As a result they were brought back through a big aircraft. Uuliktuq had always been a place where our people left their boats after whaling because of the ice that usually formed making it impossible to return by boat. That is why they left their boats at Uuliktuq. Last fall they did bring their boats back. Where are they going to leave their boats from now on if they are not permitted to use Uuliktuq which had always been used? Right now the way it is, they cannot leave their boats at Uuliktuq.

I watch the Wildlife Management people who work with game where my cabin is located walking on the ground. The area where I've seen them walking is where the pipeline is going to be built. Right there. Every summer they go there to check up on the game at calving time. Another place they go to is by Nuiqsagruat. You can see them setting up their tents and they get around by helicopter. How did they draft their materials without consulting the residents of Nuiqsut? I don't believe what they're saying. The Fish & Wildlife Management have to be drafting their materials without doing any consulting from the people who live in the areas that will be impacted. This fall the residents who set out their nets have caught fish. I, myself, took my net out in December right before Christmas Day. I was catching white fish in my net. Last spring we were fortunate to have

caribou in our region as well as this fall. And they've been seeing caribou in the area north of us and I think it has been mainly due to less activity by these people here. I doubt that they would have been seen if these people had come around doing their activity. I think that once they start up again, our caribou are going to go elsewhere because they will see them. The residents of Nuiqsut hunt seasonally when the time comes that certain game are perfect to catch and not all the time. When fishing season is right, they set their nets out to subsist for their yearly supply. When the ducks and the geese arrive, they start hunting for them. When whaling season arrives, they set out north to go whaling. There is no doubt that any outside activity is going to affect us in a very bad way impacting our subsistence way of life. If these people are given the okay to go ahead with their drilling, it is going to turn out looking like the Prudhoe Bay oilfields.

Another thing that bothered me earlier was a comment made that we were told to move here to Nuiqsut by the North Slope Borough. When Johnny, Suluk, Samuel Kunaknana, and I worked to incorporate Nuiqsut as a second class city by gathering other residents who wanted to move back to Nuiqsut, we did not work with the North Slope Borough. They were not aware of what we were doing. It was after we formed a group of residents that opted to move back to Nuiqsut that Arctic Slope Regional Corporation found out about it. That was how we started out re-establishing Nuiqsut. When we began our move back to Nuiqsut was when ASRC funded our trip by giving us five hundred dollars with the gas and grub that we would be needing on the trip. ASRC was the only one that was involved in our move back. After being here several years, we began to hear from ASRC that if oil were to be discovered, we, the residents of Nuiqsut would gain financially from it because of the oil rigs/equipment being constructed on our land whereas ASRC would earn monies from the subsurface rights. Those were their words when they first began talks about drilling on our land. When we first started out living in Nuiqsut, we lived very poorly and did not have a lot of things. Our children were able to attend school. We lived in two tents back then the whole winter. In the spring time, when you looked inside the tent you could see the soot accumulation inside of them. That is how we wintered the first year. ASRC began mistreating us after a number of years that we had lived here. Fighting for control over the other one that they made a bid on. Oliver and Jacob were fighting to have the control over our land. They only wanted to give us a small portion of what they stood to gain financially from the oil drilling. So they stalled it. Kuukpik Corporation members were not going to give in easily either at the same time. Under the law, we were told that we did not have the subsurface rights and that ASRC did. When Oliver and Jacob came, I am not afraid to say what I want to say to them either, I commented to them that I had noticed that they two were involved with implementing laws. At that time Joe and Napageak were out of town attending other meetings. And ASRC has a way of coming into town when people working for our

corporation are out of town on business. So anyway, although there are times when I don't know what is going on in our village I found out about their being in our village and approached them and indicated to them to go ahead and give us the report on the latest things that they had done lately to benefit themselves. Their faces showed that they did not like what I said to them. Those two are very afraid of me and it is because I fight for what is right. I fight for fairness although I don't have formal education behind me. I have learned about fighting for those that would benefit us. When the time came that construction was going to begin with the Alpine project, a person approached me and said, "Call me when you get a lot of money from the Alpine project so that I can go do some work for you." I replied saying, "How is it that I am going to get rich anyway?" But anyway, they got very excited upon hearing of the Alpine construction. There is no proof that we are going to get rich off of the Alpine construction although it has been said that we would in our village. We would be happy to see natural gas getting installed in our village though rather than stove oil to fuel our homes, etc. Thank you.

Page 27, line 19: Nelson Ahvakana gives a summarized translation of Bernice's speech.

Page 30, line 5a: Nelson Ahvakana gives a translation of Mayor Lampe's speech.

Page 30, line 6: Nelson Ahvakana: Announcing next speaker as being "Sarah Kunaknana."

Sarah Kunaknana: Good evening. My name is Sarah Kunaknana. I got no school in a speak english. I've never attended school. We thank those who are translating for us here. They have talked about those we have heard so far this evening and I have become speechless as I have listened. But I wanted to come and talk with regards to the animals that we subsisted off of. Those of us who are the last surviving elders living now have subsisted off of the animals that our land has to offer from the time we were born. It was when the ships came that we were able to get a taste of white man's food. What little we received in terms of the white man's food we had to make last because it wasn't a large amount. That is how valuable our game is to us because it sustains our bodies. I am still eating them even through my elderly years. What I don't want to see is our people not having access to the game that we so depend on. I cannot say that I hunt regularly now at my age but I did when I was a young woman when I was physically able to. I still love to eat from the game that exists on our land today. I love to eat freshly caught game. Including plant life that grows from the land. It is good to eat plant life in the summer months. What concerns me is the potential damage our plant life and the game that feeds on the land, even on the rivers and the sea, could face from any kind of activity. When we first began subsisting off of the land back then, you did not see that much

game. But you do see a lot of them now, all kinds, including small birds. Since I first came here in 1930, I have rarely seen the stellar's eider although in the report they stated that the stellar's eider can be seen up here. I have walked the coast but there really is not stellar's eider to be seen there. We still eat geese, squirrel and caribou just as we had from the time we began living here long ago. I stopped hunting when my grandsons advised me not to saying that they could provide for me at my age and I listened to them. I'm not going to talk at length. Not too long ago, people came who were working with lands and mapping to have us indicate on their maps where we do our subsisting on Fish Creek. There are a lot of game and waterfowl that have their young there. The mouth of Fish Creek has an abundant supply of nutritious food that the game feeds off of. That is what I just wanted to say although much has already been said about the game we live off of. Thank you.

Page 31, line 19:

Sarah Kunaknana: This is what I wanted to say in the beginning but I forgot to. My name is Sarah Kunakana again. I find the report that they compiled disturbing. My husband used to be sent tapes and he would return them recorded with stories about the past pertaining to their village. And I have noticed when I listened to the recorded tapes of discrepancies in them. This is through the radio broadcast aired from six to seven o'clock in the evening. Sometimes they're not accurate. Why don't they air the other tapes instead of airing the same tapes over and over? The tapes that they recorded long ago when we first came here were aired that one time. I know that they had my husband talk in the tapes at length but I've never heard them being broadcast over the radio. These were tapes that consisted of the knowledge of the land my husband talked about. I have a copy of those tapes in my home. Thank you.

Page 32, line 10:

Karen Burnell: If the residents are through talking, I am going to talk. I'm going to wait.

Archie Ahkiviana: I'm going to talk in Iñupiaq. We have translators. I wanted to give support to what Mr. Napageak said earlier. He is not lying. What has been put in their report is not current. Ever since we moved here our people have given testimonies and I know about there being a lot of them. I don't speak up very often but at this time I want to talk about this area that used to have caribou in the winter when we lived in Barrow. When the caribou was in short supply we would travel to Tasiqpak knowing that we would find caribou and to the area close to Kuuguluk. Before we moved back to Nuiqsut I used to also do my hunting at Umiat. That area is a prime hunting ground and if they could choose other sites, that would be

fine by me. It is a very prime hunting area. I wanted to give support to Mr. Napageak's speech. That's all.